

Legislative Issue Brief – Child Support Programs



Catawba County Board of Commissioner's Legislative Goal

Oppose continued cuts to the child support program

Background

The child support program is an essential family support program intended to ensure families' self-sufficiency by making child support a more reliable source of income. Child support both reduces child poverty and is the backbone of family budgets of poor families. The program serves 17 million children and collects \$25 billion every year in support paid for children by their non-custodial parents. The effectiveness of the child support program is jeopardized by a 20 percent cut in federal funds included in the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005. If these cuts continue, the Congressional Budget Office projects that \$11 billion in support will go uncollected over the next 10 years. Therefore, it is critical that the next administration leads the effort to repeal the 20 percent DRA child support funding cut and increase child support program funding.

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